70 Collier Street
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City of Barrie

Final

International Relations Committee

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 | **6:00 PM** | **Sir Robert Barrie Room**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
For consideration by the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee on October 29, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, M. Sachkiw at 6:01 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 10 - Co-Chair M. Sachkiw
LCol G. Johnston
J. Babcock
C. Hassey
A. Jones
J. Massie
L. Palson
B. Sergeant
S. Scully-Pratt
K. Watson

Absent: 5 - Co-Chair – Councillor J. Harris
Deputy Mayor, R. Thomson
T. Gardiner
W. Hay
J. M. Pigeon

STAFF:
Director of Economic Development, S. Schlichter
Legislative Coordinator, T. Maynard

COMMITTEE BUDGET/LEGACY FUND UPDATE

Tammie Maynard, Legislative Coordinator provided an update concerning the Committee budget and Legacy Fund.

BARRIE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP WEBSITE

Mark Sachkiw Co-Chair provided an update concerning the Barrie International Partnership website.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS/GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES PROGRAM

Shannon Scully-Pratt advised that there is nothing new to report concerning the Youth Ambassadors Program.

Jamie Babcock provided an update concerning the Global Perspective Program. He advised that the students from Zweibrucken, Germany are currently visiting Barrie, and that the goodbye party has been scheduled for October 21, 2025 at Innisdale Secondary School.

Mark Sachkiw Co-Chair advised that the German youth delegation made a presentation at the City Council meeting held on October 1, 2025.

SAGINAW MICHIGAN UPDATE

Stephannie Schlichter, Director of Economic Development provided an update concerning Saginaw, Michigan, including an interest from representatives of the city to visit Barrie during November 2025. Ms. Schlichter provided ideas on potential agenda items for their visit. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

The Committee approved an expenditure up to $3,000.00 from the International Relations Committee budget for hosting the representatives from Saginaw. Michigan in November 2025.

The Committee approved an expenditure up to $700.00 from the International Relations Committee budget to purchase friendship flag lapel pins.

ZWEIBRUCKEN, GERMANY UPDATE

Bill Sergeant provided an update concerning Zweibrucken, Germany and the delegations visit to Barrie.

Jamie Babcock advised that preparations are taking place for a hockey team and parents from Zweibrucken, Germany to visit Barrie in April, 2026. He outlined the teams draft itinerary and discussed potential costs associated with the hockey teams visit.

Jamie Babcock advised that he has been involved in meetings with Mark Sachkiw, Bill Sergeant, Jean Maurice Pigeon and Barrie Minor Hockey Association to organize the visit. Mr. Babcock indicated that he would follow up with Barrie Minor Hockey Association concerning their participation in the hockey team's visit. The Committee members provided feedback to Mr. Babcock related to potential sponsors for the visit.

HARROGATE UNITED KINGDOM UPDATE

Bill Sergeant advised that there is nothing new to report regarding Harrogate United Kingdom.

Stephannie Schlichter, Director of Economic Development commented on her discussions with the Chamber of Commerce related to Harrogate, United Kingdom. Ms. Schlichter suggested inviting staff from the Chamber of Commerce to a future meeting.

MURAYAMA, JAPAN UPDATE

Mark Sachkiw, Co-Chair provided an update concerning Murayama, Japan. He indicated that there has been a change in government in Murayama, Japan.

ARRAS, FRANCE

Mark Sachkiw, Co-Chair provided an update concerning Arras, France including their Beer and Poutinerie Festivals and the potential opportunities for unique exchanges between the two cities.

SIR ROBERT BARRIE PROJECT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Bill Sergeant provided an update concerning the Sir Robert Barrie Project. He commented on an upcoming meeting scheduled with the Barrie and District Stamp Club concerning their project related to HMSC Barrie K138.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

CHAIRMAN